



June 17, 2010

Re: Chehalis River Basin Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan

Flood Authority member jurisdictions:

The Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority is in the process of establishing a basin-wide Flood District to fund and implement flood mitigation projects in the basin. An important step in the process of establishing a Flood District is the adoption of a basin-wide Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan (Flood Plan).

The Flood Authority has worked for the past 18 months to develop a Flood Plan for the entire basin. The Flood Plan is based on existing Flood Plans prepared by member jurisdictions. The Flood Authority also solicited input from member jurisdictions, the public and others about potential flood mitigation projects. Those recommendations are incorporated into the document. Although most of those projects have not been developed in adequate detail to evaluate their feasibility, they are included in the Flood Plan so that they can be further evaluated when funding is available.

There are a number of ways jurisdictions can adopt the Flood Plan. It could be adopted to replace an existing individual Flood Plan. This would be appropriate if the existing Flood Plan is old and contains little detail about proposed projects. The basin-wide Flood Plan could also be adopted as an amendment or addendum to an existing individual Flood Plan. This would be appropriate if the jurisdiction's Flood Plan has been recently revised. Adoption of the Flood Plan should be conducted in accordance with local jurisdictions' regulations, including those for public involvement and State Environmental Policy Act review.

The Flood Authority encourages member jurisdictions to adopt the Chehalis River Basin Flood Plan as a vital step in the process of forming a Flood District.

Respectfully,

Terry Willis Chair of the Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority Grays Harbor County Commissioner